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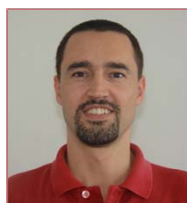
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# Large Marine Ecosystems and coastal water archetypes implemented in LCIA methods for marine eutrophication and metals ecotoxicity

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## Summary

- Modelling framework for **marine eutrophication (MEu)** and **marine metals ecotoxicity (MEc)**.
- Characterisation Factors (**CFs**) integrate **Fate**, **Exposure** or **Bioavailability**, and **Effect** Factors.
- 64 **Large Marine Ecosystems (LME)** – spatial units of coastal areas for spatial differentiation.
- Residence Time (RT)** for nitrogen and metals is required for the parameterisation of fate models.
- RT expresses the flushing of the system and the **losses** of nitrogen/metals by advection.
- RT data was found in **literature** or obtained from **4 archetypes** defined by hydrodynamics.

## Conclusions!

- The **LME classification system** was chosen for its data availability, modelling feasibility, and adequacy of size and number of spatial units.
- Archetypical RT** data was a useful solution for the parameterisation needs of the fate models.
- The **spatial differentiation** of the resulting CFs was found essential to increase the discriminatory power of the models.

## Methodology

### ① LCIA indicators

- The **MEu** indicator expresses the eutrophying impact of nitrogen (N).
- MEc** the toxic impact of metals emissions to the marine environment.

#### Characterisation Factor for Marine Eutrophication:

- Fate of N (FF), habitat Exposure Factor (XF), and Factor for the Effects on biota (EF).

$$CF_{[PAF \cdot m^3 \cdot d \cdot kg N^{-1}]} = FF_{[d]} * XF_{[kg O_2 \cdot kg N^{-1}]} * EF_{[PAF \cdot m^3 \cdot kg O_2^{-1}]}$$

#### Characterisation Factor for Marine metals Ecotoxicity:

- Fate of metals (FF), Bioavailability Factor of metals (BF), and Effect Factor on biota (EF)

$$CF_{[PAF \cdot m^3 \cdot d \cdot kg Metal^{-1}]} = FF_{[d]} * BF_{[-]} * EF_{[PAF \cdot m^3 \cdot kg Metal^{-1}]}$$

### ② Models parameterisation

- Residence Time (RT) is applied in the Fate terms of both models:

#### Fate modelling in Marine Eutrophication:

$$FF_{LME} = \frac{f_{exp}}{\lambda_{LME}} \quad f_{exp} [-] \text{ is the fraction of the emitted N that reaches coastal marine waters (exported)}$$

$\lambda_{LME} [d^{-1}]$  is the N-loss rate coefficient in each LME

- The N-losses ( $\lambda$ ) can be caused by denitrification, advection and sedimentation:

$$\lambda_j = \lambda_{denitrification} + \lambda_{advection} + \lambda_{sedimentation}$$

- The N-loss by advection is estimated with the residence time ( $\tau$ ) on each LME:

$$\lambda_{advection} = \frac{1}{\tau_{LME}}$$

#### Fate modelling in Marine metals Ecotoxicity:

- Multi-media fate model embedded in USEtox®.
- Models losses by advection with **RT**, plus metals removal by sedimentation and diffusion to sediment.

### ③ Residence time and archetypes

- The 4 archetypes are defined by the exposure to currents and regional marine circulation, depth and profile of the continental shelf, and water stratification:

- Archetype 1 (high dynamics and exposure): RT=3 months**
- Archetype 2 (medium dynamics and exposure): RT=2 years**
- Archetype 3 (low dynamics): RT=25 years**
- Archetype 4 (very low dynamics, embayed, often stratified): RT=90 years**

- Assumption:** System dynamics determines the RT of both N and metals in the water column.

## Background

### Marine Eutrophication (MEu)

- Ecosystem response to excessive input of nitrogen (N) with increase of primary production in the photic zone of coastal waters [1].
- Heterotrophic bacteria respire the accumulated organic matter consuming dissolved oxygen.
- Excessive depletion of oxygen may lead to hypoxic stress of benthic organisms and loss of biodiversity.

### Marine metals Ecotoxicity (MEc)

- Response of ecosystems to excessive level of metals in the integrated environment [2].
- Organisms become exposed to excessive metals concentration in marine water.
- Exposure may lead to uptake of metals and toxicity effect by e.g. decreasing or blocking the uptake of essential elements by binding with the transporters.

### Life Cycle Impact Assessment (LCIA)

- Characterisation modelling of environmental mechanisms.
- Characterisation Factors (**CFs**) are used in LCIA to convert emissions into impacts.

## Results

### Spatial units

- Biogeographical classification system.
- Large Marine Ecosystems (LME).**
- 64 spatial units** of coastal marine waters.
- Neritic zone from river basins and estuaries to the seaward boundaries of continental shelves.
- Distinct bathymetry, hydrography, productivity and trophically dependent populations [3].
- Mixing processes, light and nutrients.

### ! Number and size of spatial units.

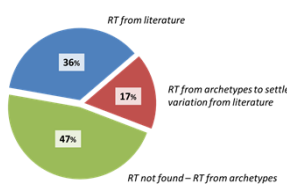
### ! Integrated approach: productivity and oceanography, fish and fisheries, pollution and ecosystem health, socioeconomic, and governance [4].

### ! Data availability for productivity, residence species, currents and circulation, and ease of adaptation to a climate zonation.

### ! The LME classification system was adopted for both MEu and MEc, out of a comparison of 13 alternative zonation systems.

#### Distribution of data sources for Residence Time (RT)

- RT from literature (36% of LMEs).
- 4 archetypes used for the remaining to:
- Provide RT data (47%),
- Settle differences in sources (17%).



The Large Marine Ecosystems (LME) spatial units

#### Residence Time (RT) dataset and sources: Literature and archetypes

LME	RT	Source
1. Gulf of Mexico	2.00	2
2. Gulf of Mexico	0.25	1
3. California Current	0.25	1
4. Gulf of California	1.50	1
5. Gulf of Mexico	90.00	4
6. Southern U.S. Continental Shelf	0.25	1
7. Northern U.S. Continental Shelf	0.25	1
8. Scotian Shelf	0.01	1
9. Newfoundland Labrador Shelf	0.25	1
10. Inuit Pacific-Hudson	0.25	1
11. Pacific Central American	0.25	1
12. Caribbean Sea	0.25	1
13. Humboldt Current	0.01	1
14. Patagonian Shelf	0.25	1
15. South Brazil Shelf	0.25	1
16. East Brazil Shelf	0.25	1
17. North Brazil Shelf	0.25	1
18. West Greenland Shelf	0.25	1
19. East Greenland Shelf	0.25	1
20. Barents Sea	2.00	2
21. Norwegian Sea	2.00	2
22. North Sea	2.00	2
23. Baltic Sea	25.00	2
24. Celtic-Biscay Shelf	2.00	2
25. Iberian Coastal	0.25	1
26. Mediterranean	90.00	4
27. Canary Current	0.25	1
28. Guinea Current	1.50	1
29. Benguela Current	0.25	1
30. Agulhas Current	2.00	2
31. Somali Coastal Current	0.25	1
32. Arabian Sea	0.50	1
33. Red Sea	40.00	1
34. Bay of Bengal	12.00	1
35. Gulf of Thailand	0.50	1
36. South China Sea	25.00	1
37. Sulu-Oleian Sea	25.00	1
38. Indonesian Sea	0.75	1
39. North Australia	0.25	1
40. Northwest Australia	0.25	1
41. East Australia	0.25	1
42. Southeast Australia	0.25	1
43. Southwest Australia	0.25	1
44. West-Central Australia	0.25	1
45. Northeast Australia	0.25	1
46. New Zealand Shelf	0.25	1
47. East China Sea	1.00	1
48. Yellow Sea	2.00	1
49. Kurushio Current	2.50	1
50. Sea of Japan/East Sea	20.00	1
51. Oyashio Current	0.25	1
52. Sea of Okhotsk	2.00	1
53. Sea of Japan	0.25	1
54. Beaufort Sea	1.50	1
55. Chukchi Sea	1.50	1
56. East Siberian Sea	1.50	1
57. Laptev Sea	1.50	1
58. Kara Sea	1.50	1
59. Laptev Shelf	0.25	1
60. Farer Plateau	0.25	1
61. Antarctic	4.00	1
62. Black Sea	90.00	4
63. Adriatic Sea	4.00	1
64. Arctic Ocean	11.00	1

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